GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services – Registration & Stamps Department – Ante date stamps scandal - allegations against Sri D.Narasimha Rao, former Sub Registrar (Retired) and certain registration officials of Zone-II and Zone-III – disciplinary proceedings initiated – Written Statement of Defence submitted – Regular Enquiry conducted – Report submitted – Show cause notice Issued – Representation received – punishment of 10% cut in pension besides recovery of loss of Rs.90,216/- imposed – Orders – Issued.

REVENUE (VIGILIANCE-II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.1166 Dated:19-11-2015

Read the following:

1. DIG, R&S (MV), O/o the C&IG, R&S, AP., Hyd., (Preliminary Enuqiry Officer) Lr.No.29788/Enqy/95, dt:21-4-1997.
2. DIG, R&S, Eluru Procs.No.E2/2258/95-7, dt:19-6-2000
3. DIG, R&S, Eluru Procs.No.E2/2258/1995, dt:31-5-2005
4. Enquiry report of Sri K.Satyanarayana, former ADR, R&S, Bhimavaram vide P.No.1/2005/6/ADR, dt:28-9-2007.
5. Govt., Memo.No.1454/Vig.VI(1)/2010-8, dt:31-5-2010.
6. Govt., Memo.No.1454/Vig.VI(1)/2010-39, dt:5-12-2013.
7. Representation of Sri D.Narasimha Rao, former SR (Retd) dt:8-3-2014.
8. Govt., Lr.No.1454/Vig.II(1)/2010-60, dt:31-7-2015.
9. APPSC Lr.No.779/DC&C/2/2015, dt:7-10-2015.

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ORDER:

Where as, in the reference 1st read above, it has been brought to the notice of Government that certain officials of Registration & Stamps Department in Zone-II & Zone-III were involved in ante dated stamps scandal in connection with the registration of documents executed on the stamps sold with ante dates without proper verification and thereby caused loss of Revenue to the State exchequer.

2. And whereas, on the directions of Commissioner & Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad, the Preliminary Enquiry officer i.e., the Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps (Market Value), Office of the Commissioner & Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad had submitted the report stating that certain registration officials have registered documents executed on the stamps sold with ante dates without proper verification and thereby caused loss of Revenue to the State exchequer in the reference 1st read above.

3. Whereas, based on the findings of Preliminary Enquiry Officer, the Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Eluru has framed the following charge against Sri D.Narasimha Rao, former Sub Registrar (Retired) in the reference 2nd read above.

Charge:

Sri D.Narasimha Rao, while working as SR, Penugonda registered 15 documents without verifying the date of stamps sold by Sri N.S.K.Rao, Stamp Vendor, Amalapuram as required in IG of R&S, Hyd., instructions vide Memo. No. MV1/5000/92, Dated: 26-7-1993 and 27-8-1993. In the preliminary enquiry, it was prima facie established that the stamp vendor had sold the stamps used for the above 15 documents with ante dates to facilitate the parties to draft documents with ante dates in

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order to evade payment of stamp duty on the revised market value which have come into force w.e.f 1-4-1995. On account of allowing such stamps with ante dates, it was held that Sri D.Narasimha Rao, as I/c SR, Penugonda, Bhimavaram Registration District was instrumental in registering the documents without verifying the date of selling of stamps, sustaining a loss of Revenue of Rs.1,09,496/- to Govt., exchequer.

4. After receipt of Written Statement of Defence, the Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Eluru has appointed Assistant District Registrar, Bhimavaram as Regular Enquiry Officer in the reference 3rd read above. In the refrence 4th read above, the Regular Enquiry Officer has submitted the report holding the charge held proved against Sri D.Narasimha Rao, former Sub Registrar (Retired).

5. The Commissioner & Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad has forwarded the Regular Enquiry Officer report to Government for taking necessary in the matter under Rule 9 of Andhra Pradesh Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

6. Whereas, Government after examining the Regular Enquiry Officer report in the reference 4th read above, and after taking consideration of all the facts including heavy loss caused to State exchequer have provisionally decided to impose a punishment of 50% cut in pension permanently besides recovery of loss i.e., 90,216/- against Sri D.Narasimha Rao, former Sub Registrar (Retired) for the charge held proved among certain others. Accordingly, a Show Cause Notice has been issued in the reference 6th read above with a direction to show cause as to why the proposed punishment should not be imposed against him.

7. In the reference 7th read above, the Charged Officer Sri D.Narasimha Rao, former Sub Registrar (Retired) has submitted representation stating mainly among others that the purchaser is at liberty to get the stamps for registration anywhere in the state and stated that specific instructions were not issued to the concerned Sub-Registrars at that time to verify by referring to the concerned Sub-Registrar and find out whether the purchase of stamps are genuine or not. He has further stated that instructions were issued very late after 3 months i.e., 28-07-1995 in Memo No.E.2/2258/95 to all the Sub-Registrars in the Zone for being alert that if any such documents are presented for registration that they may keep pending all such documents report to the Office. He has further stated that he had registered the concerned documents only on the basis of a certificate issued by the then Sub-Registrar, Amalapuram as per the instructions were in vogue at that time and stated that he had no option except to register the document on the strength of the certificate issued by him. He has further stated that the then Sub Registrar, Amalapuram as LW-28 himself in earlier part of his 161 statement admitted having issued certificate in the year 1995. He has further stated that the Records were seized on 31-03-1995 itself and no stamps shall have to be issued by Sub-Treasury Office, unless these certificates were issued by Sub-Registrar that the registers maintained by the stamp vendors are surrendered. He has further stated that the Commissioner & Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad had issued instructions dt:6-5-1995 to the District Registrars to take steps to supervise and verify and to seize the records. He has further stated that how the amount of Rs.90,216/- shown as loss was not known to him and stated that it appears that the report of the Central Bureau, Crime Investigation Department is a fabricated one. He has further stated that the Government

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have to collect the loss of revenue within the limitation period after serving notice to such person where the non-payment was by reason of fraud, collusion or any willful misstatement or suppression of facts or contravention of any of the provisions of the act or rules made there under with intent to evade payment of loss of revenue and stated that the period of limitation already completed since the date of registration in the year 1995. Therefore, he has requested the Government to consider the above facts and close the matter.

8. Government have examined the matter in light of the Regular Enquiry Officer report taking into consideration of the representation of the Charged Officer Sri D.Narasimha Rao, former Sub Registrar (Retired) have decided to reduce the proposed punishment of 50% cut in pension permanently besides recovery of loss of Rs.90,216/- to 10% cut in pension permanently besides recovery of loss of Rs.90,216/- against Sri D.Narasimha Rao, former Sub Registrar (Retired). The Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission have also agreed with the proposal of the department in the reference 9th read above. (copy enclosed).

9. Therefore, Government, hereby order to impose a punishment of 10% cut in pension permanently besides recovery of loss of Rs.90,216/- against the Charged Officer Sri D.Narasimha Rao, former Sub Registrar (Retired) for registering documents executed on the stamps sold with ante dates without verification and thereby caused loss of Revenue to the State exchequer.

10. The Director & Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad shall take necessary action in the matter accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

AJEYA KALLAM
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Director & Inspector General, Registration & Stamps,
Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad
The Individual (w.e) (through the Director & Inspector General,
Registration & Stamps, Andhra Pradesh., Hyderabad with a
request to serve the order and furnish the served copy with dated
acknowledgement to Government for record).

Copy to:
The Secretary to Vigilance Commissioner,
Andhra Pradesh Vigilance Commission, Hyderabad.
The Principal Secretary,
Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission, Hyderabad.
The Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps,
Vijayawada / Guntur.
The Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Guntur / Eluru.
The Central Bureau, Crime Investigation Department,
Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.
SF/SC.

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER